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THE UNITED STATES SERVES NOTICE ON GREAT BRITAIN

Its Message Is In Plain Words and They Cannot Be Misunderstood

Double Twist Taken In the Lion's Tail Much to His Surprise

President Wilson and Secretary Lansing have disposed of the German question to the satisfaction of the American people, and having secured full satisfaction of the demands made upon the German Empire, have now, as the president told the American people that would be done, have gone after John Bull and propose to exact from him the same consideration and acquiescence that was exacted from Germany.

President Wilson announced when he took up the German cases that one nation would be disposed of at a time and began with Germany. Now it is England's turn, and the British lion has been told what he must do.

The note which was sent to Great Britain by Secretary Lansing tells the British lion in plain American words that his restraint of American trade and his treatment of American shipping interests must stop—and that now.

In the United States assumes the role of the champion of all neutrals, and explicitly demands that relations be governed by international law and not by expediency, as has been the course of England since the outbreak of the European war. The note declares that British interference with American trade since the beginning of the European war, through a so-called blockade instituted by the Allies against enemy countries on March 11, is "ineffective, illegal and indefensible," and notice is served that the American government cannot submit to the curtailment of its neutral rights, and it cannot "with complacence suffer further subordination of its rights and interests."

And here, in plain English, boiled down so that he who runs may read, are the declarations made and which will be enforced.

The United States Says

The methods sought to be employed by Great Britain *** are without justification.

The blockade is ineffective, illegal and indefensible.

The judicial procedure offered as a means of reparation is inherently defective for the purpose, and in many cases jurisdiction is asserted in violation of the law of nations.

The United States *** can not submit to the curtailment of its neutral rights.

The United States might not be in a position to object *** if its interests and the interests of all neutrals were unaffected, but being affected, it cannot with complacence suffer further subordination of its rights and interests.

The United States *** must insist that the relations *** be governed, not by a policy of expediency, but by those established rules of international conduct upon which Great Britain in the past has held the United States to account when the latter nation was a belligerent in a struggle for national existence.

It is of the highest importance to neutrals *** that the principles of international right be maintained unimpaired.

This task of championing the integrity of neutral rights *** the United States毫不犹豫地 assumes and to the accomplishment of that task it will devote its energies.

What the Press Has to Say

Disparities from the other side say that the British are amazed at the tone of the note, as they never anticipated that the United States had felt that they had overstepped the mark, and the papers of that country are still rapping in their wonder and amazement.

This does not hold good in America where the entire press, irrespective of party or affiliation, is commending the note and giving it their approval. Just to show how the papers feel and express themselves all

NOT A LEGAL VOTE

Judge Ranney Declares Ballot Cast Away From Home Is Unconstitutional and Void

The Missouri voters, hundreds of St. Joseph traveling men among them, who could not be at home last election, and therefore mailed their ballots home, will have to come in person next election, as the absentee ballot has been declared unconstitutional.

This decision was rendered by Judge R. G. Ranney of the Cape Girardeau Court of Common Pleas, who handed down a decision in the election contest case of Thos. D. Straughan (Dem.) vs. Chas. W. W. Meyers (Rep.) for presiding Judge of the county court of St. Genevieve county. Judge Ranney declared the law passed at the 1913 legislature regarding absentee voting unconstitutional.

Three absentee ballots were cast for Meyers and three for Straughan. He declared Straughan elected by two votes, with a total of 1,111 against 1,109 for Meyers.

Meyers has been holding office as presiding judge of the county court by certification of election by nine majority.

Straughan's attorneys alleged the law was invalid because of a conflict with the constitution's provision that a voter must offer a ballot and vote at his home precinct. Judge Ranney declared the intent of the legislature was that the voter simply caused a ballot to be mailed back home to be offered and voted there. But he went further and found the law's title and enacting clause specified St. Louis city and county only and not the remainder of the state, making the local and special law, against the constitutional inhibition unless special notice of intention to secure its passage were given. If no such notice, the words "other counties" used in the body of the law were intended to make it a statewide law, then the constitutional enjoinder that the title of a law must state explicitly the contents would invalidate the law again.

Meyers was opposed to the amendment.

ORGANIZATION PERFECT

A Branch of the National Security League Organized at the Robidoux Monday Night

Two hundred of St. Joseph's representative citizens faced R. T. Forbes Monday night when he arose in the banquet room of the Hotel Robidoux after a half hour of dining and announced that Charles H. Grassy and W. W. Brewster would address them after which an organization of the National Security League would be perfected. Mr. J. T. Golding of The News-Press introduced Mr. Grassy and that well-known newspaper man made an address on the European war and ended with a plea for preparedness.

He was followed by Mr. Brewster whose address did not meet with the favor of Mr. Grassy, as he was somewhat too personal in his remarks. Then Charles E. Bonner followed with the statement that he favored "national preparedness" and would support the plan recommended to Congress by President Wilson and his party platform.

A local branch was then formed with 150 charter members, which number will be augmented. The meeting was a most interesting and pleasing one. The officers elected were Col. James H. McCord honorary chairman, R. T. Forbes permanent chairman, C. D. Morris treasurer, and Jerry G. Wing secretary. Standing committees will be appointed by Chairman Forbes and a campaign will be conducted for additional members.

WHERE, OH, WHERE IS IT?

Will the Morris-Swanson-McKinsey Calamity Chorus Please Rise and Sing Loudly?

Almost every day some of the great Morris-Swanson-McKinsey et al calamity chorus breaks forth in howling strains, and when the tune plays out some strange politician will be importuned here to tell us that we are suffering from hard times. The incredulous St. Josephite, when he remembers, is met with the assurance that if it is not here, it is somewhere else that times are hard.

But nobody locates the section except that there is some complaint about business conditions on the Pacific coast. Of course no depression

(Continued on Page Eight)

THIS IS NOT THE TIME FOR CHANGE

No Time for Gratification of Personal Ambition at Party's Expense

WORTHY INCUMBENTS SHOULD BE RETURNED

The Sedalia Democrat Sounds a Note of Warning and Calls on the Democracy of the State to Stand By the Men Who in These Trying Times Have Stood By the Party and the Things That the Party Stands For, and Send Them Back to Keep Up the Fight They Have So Far Nobly Fought

It must be gratifying to most Democrats to know that in spite of every endeavor of the opposition press to create the impression that there is discord in the party, there never was a time when there was less hostility and less dissension among Missouri Democrats than now. That this is true was very forcibly demonstrated at all the recent meetings held throughout the state and more especially at the one held in Sedalia. Of course there were different aspirants for different offices in attendance, working for their own candidates, but there was an bitterness displayed not personal antagonism in evidence.

Even the ill-tempered act of Chief of Police Hammill of Kansas City in having distributed at the hotels and at the entrance to Convention Hall "for Senator" buttons aroused no resentment and indeed but little comment. The truth is, the distribution of these buttons was not taken seriously by anyone, and but few of them were worn. Governor Main himself, in a very dignified and entirely frank statement, disclaimed both responsibility and the act and advance knowledge that it should occur. He also stated even though he might be contemplating becoming a candidate for the sonship, the Sedalia meeting was no place to make announcement and that the method pursued was not to his mind with the object of the great Central Missouri gathering. And, as before said, the action was not taken seriously, thus failing the accomplishment of and ulterior purpose that may have saturated the perpetrator.

But while we are on the subject, it may not be amiss to say a little something regarding the senatorial situation.

MISSOURI HAS BEEN FORTUNATE

Missouri during its entire existence as a state has been peculiarly fortunate in its United States senators, and

(Continued on Page Eight)

CARRIED ONLY ONE WARD

Moberly Decides to Stay in the "Wet" Column, Despite a Desperate Fight Put Up By "Drys"

Moberly Mo. Nov. 9.—Carrying only one ward, and that by only seven votes, the "drys" were defeated in the local option election here today by a majority of 50. The total vote cast was 3,112.

The "wets" won in spite of a strenuous campaign waged by the women until the last vote was cast. All day women followed the "dry" leaders about the city with cameras taking pictures and begging for votes against the saloons. All day the church bells rang, but only the ward wherein most of the churches are located voted dry.

Donald Ratzer, a saloonkeeper, assisted the "drys" by stump speeches in which he told of "enormous profits" made on liquor and said that any man who took two drinks of his whiskey could not another man's throat. Ratzer announced he would not operate his saloon after today.

NOV. 19 IS THE LAST DAY

Mr. Attorney, Nov. 19, next Friday, is the last day for filing suits for publication for the January term. The Observer wants your business and if you will leave your publications at the office of Circuit Clerk Ross Cox we will see that they are properly published.

Harry Moore, who conducts the Castle Garden hotel, was robbed of \$100 by a highwayman early Friday morning.

(Continued on Page Eight)

STATE AID FOR ROADS

The Two Principal Acts Which Bring Revenue Originated with Secretary of State Cornelius Reusch

The vast benefits given to road improvement in Missouri from the policy of state aid, which is attracting such wide attention at this time, makes especially interesting the fact that state aid is of very recent origin in Missouri. There are three laws on the statute books providing revenue for the road fund, and their actual operation covers scarcely a half dozen years. The success of this constructive road legislation is emphasized by the recent statement of State Highway Commissioner Frank W. Buffum, who estimates that as a result of the stimulus to road building given by these laws there has been, since 1912, throughout the state an expenditure of local funds of a sum exceeding \$15,000,000.

The first law for state aid was enacted in 1907. Senator E. A. Dowell of Lewis county was the author of this law, which was known as the "option stamp act." Its enforcement was held up by litigation until 1910, when the total receipts for that year were \$25. The litigation over this act was finally terminated in 1911. With the law sustained by the courts, in full settlement of all arrears, there was paid into the state treasury the sum of \$83,155.25. The gross proceeds of this act, up to November 1, 1915, were \$186,251.45.

The second act intended to produce road revenue, also passed in 1907, provided for the registration of motor vehicles. This law was loosely drawn and disappointing in its results. The gross proceeds from this act, up to the time of the present efficient registration law went into effect four years later, were only \$76,521.50. In 1911, the present secretary of state, Cornelius Reusch, redrafted the automobile registration act, making registration annual. Up to Nov. 1, 1915, this new law has put into the state treasury, to the credit of the road fund, the magnificent sum of \$900,555.75.

The third law providing state aid for roads was enacted in 1910. This act, also written by the present secretary of state, is known as the "corporation registration and supervision act." The operation of this law has produced road money in the sum of \$220,116.25 up to Nov. 1, 1915.

The net results of the policy of state aid have been the payment of \$1,380,145.69 into the state treasury for the road improvement fund. Of this amount, \$1,100,472.14 have come from laws placed on the statute books through the efforts of Secretary of State Cornelius Reusch.

The substantial benefit to the road system of Missouri are so far-reaching that the wisdom of the state aid policy is proved and its continuation and expansion assured.

THE BEST BAROMETER

Postal Receipts For the Month of October Put Flight All Loud Calamity Howlers

(Continued on Page Eight)

NOT WORTH THE \$25

The Name of "Roosevelt" Would Not Work With the Minion of the Law

Quinton Hill, N. J., Nov. 11.—The reason why Quinton Roosevelt, a son of the former president, was a little bit late for the Harvard-Princeton football game became known here today. Mr. Roosevelt was bowling along the Madison boulevard at a good rate of speed when his car was stopped by a motorcycle patrolman, Geo. Schlesman, who told Guy Brandon, Mr. Roosevelt's chauffeur, that he was making thirty miles an hour. Mr. Roosevelt protested, but the policeman was unmoved when informed that he had stopped a son of an ex-president.

At the Union Hill police station a police lieutenant told the chauffeur in his car, "It's a good name, all right," he said, "but it's not good for \$25."

Mr. Roosevelt, who had only a limited amount of money with him, silently produced \$25.

"You always heard Jersey Justice is quick," he remarked, as he hurried to the door. "Now I believe it."

WHAT NAPOLEON WROTE

Napoleon, while on the Isle of Elba, wrote this line:

"Able was I ere I saw Elba."

Just for curiosity, try reading this line either direction.